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12 February 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
FOUO No. 622

AFRICA

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CONTENTS	PAGE
INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS	
Tanzania-Zambia Railroad Facing Problems (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 12 Jan 79)	1
Briefs	
Zaire-Angola Rapprochement	3
Review of OMVS Financing	3
Movement of Burundi Refugees	4
Guinea-Bissau-Guinea Cooperation	4
ANGOLA	
China's View of Angolan Government May Be Softening (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 5 Jan 79)	5
Adverse Comments on U.S. Policy Towards Angola (Augusta Conchiglia; AFRIQUE-ASIE, 8 Jan 79)	7
CHAD	
Paris Magazine Interviews FROLINAT Exleader Abba Siddick (Abba Siddick Interview; JEUNE AFRIQUE, 24 Jan 79)	10
GABON	
Briefs	
Military, Police Changes	12
PDG National Congress Set	12
GHANA	
Briefs	
Appeal for Volta Region Development	13

- a -

[III - NE & A - 122 FOUO]

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CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
GUINEA	
French-Guinean Entente May Give Rise to Second Thoughts (Abdelaziz Dahmani; JEUNE AFRIQUE, 10 Jan 79)	14
Slight Improvement in Guinean Economy Seen (JEUNE AFRIQUE, 10 Jan 79)	16
Briefs	
Suspected Psychiatric Center Closed	17
KENYA	
Moi Said To Need His Popularity To Control Tensions (JEUNE AFRIQUE, 10 Jan 79)	18
MALI	
Briefs	
Increased 1979 Budget Adopted	21
French-Malian Mining Syndicate	21
FRG Waterworks, Cement Financing	21
MAURITIUS	
Briefs	
Indian Aid Promised	22
MOZAMBIQUE	
Fishing Industry, Pescom Situation Reviewed (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 5 Jan 79) ...	23
Briefs	
Ongoing Prospecting for Minerals	25
Quarries Reorganized	25
Large Food Imports	26
SENEGAL	
Senegalese Democratic Party Activity Noted (AFRIQUE- ASIE, 8-21 Jan 79)	27
TANZANIA	
Briefs	
Aircraft Delivery	28

- b -

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CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
TOGO	
Briefs	
Petroleum Company Council Changes	29
ZAIRE	
Briefs	
Sects Regulated	30

- C -

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

TANZANIA-ZAMBIA RAILROAD FACING PROBLEMS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEEANS in French 12 Jan 79 p 93

[Text] The Tanzania-Zambia railroad, managed by the state enterprise TAZARA [Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority] was completed two years ago. It is the most ambitious illustration of Chinese cooperation with the Third World. The AFP [French Press Agency] recently investigated its functioning.

Peking granted a loan of \$358 million whose repayment is spread out over 30 years beginning in 1983, not to mention the labor furnished by thousands of Chinese. The railroad is 1,859 kilometers long. Its functioning has run into many technical difficulties and its profitability seems doubtful.

TAZARA was conceived at the time when Angola and Mozambique, under Portuguese administration, encircled Zambia. This railroad was to free Zambia through the port of Dar es-Salaam.

Since it was put into service, a railroad workers strike on the Zambian end has interfered with operations. The workers are demanding a raise in pay. The initial goal of transporting 2 million tons of merchandise per year has not been achieved: in 1977, only 1.3 million tons and in 1978 scarcely 1.4 million tons have been carried. If the deficit has been constant for freight, passenger transport has been a success with 1 million passengers in 1977 and 1.3 million in 1978.

However, with a profit of \$1 million last year and scant hopes for making as much in 1979, the future of TAZARA is not assured.

Tanzania and Zambia were obliged last year to request China to take over the administration of the railroad again and Peking sent back about 500 technicians without much enthusiasm.

At the end of the year just passed, the turnaround time for the rolling stock, which should have been six days between the coast and the end of the line at Kapira Mposhi, was as long as three weeks.

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TAZARA uses only a quarter of its capacity because, although it began with 2,100 cars plus about 100 passenger cars, it now has 500 of them completely out of service. About 1,000 more have been stopped in Zambia where the importers prefer to use them as warehouses instead of unloading them and paying warehouse costs for their merchandise. Moreover, one-third of the 100 diesel locomotives have broken down.

Some tens of thousands of tons of imports destined to Zambia have then been stopped in the Port of Dar es-Salaam, and copper exports from that country are traveling very slowly over that glutted route. It is because of this catastrophic situation that the Zambian president decided in October to reopen the "southern route" across Rhodesia.

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12,116
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2
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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ZAIRE-ANGOLA RAPPROCHEMENT--"Many were the people who believed, or still do, that the Angola-Zaire rapprochement would be without consequence and that the union would have no future. Yet, they were wrong," writes the Zaire-Presse News Agency (AZAP). "Ever since the process of reconciliation between the two countries was initiated in Brazzaville, sanctioned by the Kinshasa and Luanda presidential meetings, permanent contacts have been established." "The Republic of Zaire which signed with Angola a peace, solidarity, and cooperation treaty has always respected its promises and the sovereignty of the reciprocal countries. Therefore, there could be no possibility for Zaire to interfere in Angolan domestic affairs even if the railroad which connects the Shaba copper mines to the Angolan port of Lobito, on the Atlantic, is indispensable to us in channeling our exports." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 44] 5157

REVIEW OF OMVS FINANCING--The persuasion drive, carried out by the chiefs of state of Mali, Senegal, and Mauritania in dealing with financing sources in an effort to cover the costs of Senegal River control projects, led to commitments amounting to \$443 million from Doha, Kuwait, Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, Paris, Bonn, and Ottawa. So far, the OMVS (Senegal River Development Organization) has received \$225 out of the \$443 promised. The OMVS is primarily concerned with actually starting construction on the Diama and Manatali dams which are the two basic projects here. The bidding invitations for the construction of the first dam have already been issued. Advance selection of enterprises that will build the Manatali dam is scheduled for this month. We recall that, out of the \$443 million in the anticipated budget, the share of the Arab countries come to 50 percent while the share of Europe and Canada comes to 39 percent and that of the FAD [African Development Fund] comes to 10 percent. Col Ould Salek, of Mauritania, was chosen to be conference chairman, thus succeeding president Moussa Traore, of Mali. [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French No 1/8, 8 Jan 79 p 62] 5058

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MOVEMENT OF BURUNDI REFUGEES--Some 23,000 refugees from Burundi are to be transferred from Ulyankulu, near Tabora in western Tanzania, to a camp recently created at Mishamo (150 kilometers southwest of Kigoma), according to a responsible official of the Tanzanian Interior Ministry. This move has been caused by the lack of water and lands in the Ulyankulu region, while in Mishamo, the citizens of Burundi who fled from the 1972 massacres will find a region of hills from 1,500 to 2,000 meters high, similar to those of their native country. In addition to the occupants of the Ulyankulu camp, Mishamo will shelter 3,000 other refugees who have been living in the Kigoma region. The program is the result of cooperation between the Tanzanian Government, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the World Food Program and the Lutheran World Service. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 12 Jan 79 p 93] 12,116

GUINEA-BISSAU-GUINEA COOPERATION--At the time of the signing of the reconciliation between Guinea and Portugal, the Guinean ambassador to Bissau, Mr Barry Biro, specified that Guinea-Bissau and his country were drawing up a plan for the common exploitation of the Corubal River basin which is to be financed by the United Nations and which will permit the agricultural development of that border region. As for the conflict over the territorial waters in which Bissau and Conakry are engaged, Mr Biro declared that his country desires only that the border agreements signed between the former colonial powers (France and Portugal) be respected. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 12 Jan 79 p 85] 12,116

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ANGOLA

CHINA'S VIEW OF ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT MAY BE SOFTENING

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 44

[Unattributed report: "Change of Chinese Attitude Toward Luanda"]

[Text] China seems to have modified somewhat its attitude toward the Angolan regime which it had refused to recognize so far.

The New China News Agency has interpreted as a sign of Angola's "strengthening of independence" the dismissal of Prime Minister Lopo do Nascimento and Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Economy Carlos Rocha Dilolwa. It recalled that Mr Dilolwa, president of the mixed Angolan-Cuban commission, had recently concluded an agreement stipulating the sending of another 6,000 Cuban technicians to Angola.

The New China News Agency further mentioned the economic and political difficulties experienced by President Agostinho Neto's regime caused, specifically, according to the agency, by the "armed struggle waged by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA)."

So far Peking had been charging the USSR of having supported only one of the three Angolan nationalist organizations, Mr Neto's MPLA, and of having fought the other two (FNLA, UNITA), "to profit from the situation so that Soviet forces could be infiltrated into the country."

Officially China considered Mr Neto's regime as being dominated by the Soviet Union and as an instrument of "Soviet-Cuban occupation" of Angola, similar to Portuguese colonialism. It was unwilling to recognize the Angolan regime "in order not to grant the Soviet Union the right to control Angola through armed intervention," was the official statement.

We learned from diplomatic sources that the first indication of a bending of China's attitude toward Mr Neto came in the course of the visit paid to Guinea, last October, by a high Chinese diplomat, Vice Premier Geng Biao. Answering the Conakry leaders, Mr. Geng Biao would have then indicated that China "greatly esteemed" President Neto, the same source indicated.

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According to observers this overture to Angola aims at competing on its own grounds Soviet influence whose progress and threat China has denounced steadily.

Commenting on President Neto's governmental measures, the official Chinese news agency had an equally favorable response to the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Western powers and to the visit which American Senator George McGovern paid to Angola. It emphasized that the United States is the last Western power not to have a diplomatic mission in that country.

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ANGOLA

ADVERSE COMMENTS ON U.S. POLICY TOWARDS ANGOLA

Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French No 178, 8 Jan 79 p 62

[Article by Augusta Conchiglia: "In the Face of Warlike Campaign"]

[Excerpts] The Americans think that they can still change the Luanda regime. That will cost them some.

"The withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola is not negotiable with third parties," the deputy chairman of the Council of State of Cuba, Mr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, just declared in Lisbon.

This official posture comes at a moment which is all the more opportune since the Western press and especially the Anglo-Saxon press continue to distort the reality of the Angolan position by advancing many shaky assumptions and speculations. For American journalists who accompanied Senator McGovern to Luanda and who had an opportunity to be received by President Agostinho Neto, the presence of the Cuban internationalist army in Angola has to do with the obscure and urgent strategic requirements of certain powers.

They forget that they are dealing here with a real and primordial necessity: the need to contribute to the safeguarding of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Angola in the face of the very specific threats from one of the world's most powerful armies, the army of Pretoria.

This by the way is something which Senator McGovern seems to have understood rather well in the course of his talks with Angolan leaders, especially with the chief of state and the Cuban diplomats.

Of course, the Carter administration, which is looking for excuses and justification in order not to normalize its relations with Angola, refuses to take specific measures to force the racist South African leaders to abide by the UN resolutions on Namibia and to exert the necessary pressure so that they will stop all aid to the puppets of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] who are operating with the South African troops to violate Angolan territory, to kill, massacre, and destroy.

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Nonalignment

Did not Ambassador Young, his assistant McHenry, [and] American assistant secretary of state Moose submit successive reports to the White House to indicate very specifically that those really responsible for the Angolan government's recourse to the Cuban internationalist fighters were precisely those who permitted the South Africans to invade Angolan territory right after the proclamation of independence, in November 1975, in order to overthrow the popular regime of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]? In other words, in fact, the Western powers themselves and the United States (through Dr Kissinger) at their head? Did not Mr Young declare that he saw no problem arising from the Cuban military presence in Angola?

But, then, how can one explain this outburst in the American press which "suddenly"--to tell the truth, with a delay of 3 years--discovers that the interest, which Washington is expressing in Luanda, is due to the fact that "Dr Agostinho Neto is a sincere supporter of nonalignment?" Did they never read or hear an Angolan leader proclaim an option different from that of nonalignment?

Are they forgetting or are they pretending not to know--for reasons that are not difficult to guess--that nonalignment has never ceased to be one of the fundamental facts of life of the MPLA's foreign policy ever since its creation, that is to say, the logical pursuit of a policy of independence in all areas and with respect to everyone?

The fact of life is that this press campaign is remote-controlled by the most warlike circles in the White House, those who, gathering around Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, the chairman of the National Security Council, want to use blackmail and pressure to force the Angolan government to modify its options and, if possible, to move it into the camp of a "non-alignment" favorable to the West.

Of course, there is no contradiction between the Angolan options and the existence of a policy of privileged relations with all countries which, from the very beginning of the national liberation war, actively supported the MPLA. This is true even though these privileged relations, as president Neto often underscored, do not prevent Angola from maintaining bonds of cooperation with other countries, even if they have different political systems.

If Angola today feels a more pressing need for intensifying its trade and cooperation relations with all countries of the world, this is due above all to an effort to overcome the consequences of isolation into which the Western powers had plunged it during the war and to guarantee the recovery of all branches of the economy.

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This therefore is not an effort--as certain Western sources claim--to "move away" from the natural allies of Angola, especially the socialist countries, because, as president Neto kept repeating over and over again, the RPA [People's Republic of Angola] will under no condition, regardless of what it may be, agree to a normalization of its relations with any Western country, nor any pretended reconciliation with the criminals of UNITA, nor a reduction in the aid given to the SWAPO.

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CHAD

PARIS MAGAZINE INTERVIEWS FROLINAT EXLEADER ABBA SIDDICK

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 24 Jan 79 p 35 LD

[Interview with former FROLINAT leader Abba Siddick by Sory Serinde Diallo in Paris around "mid January: "I am Not a Crystal Gazer"]

[Text] As a former leader of the Chad National Liberation Front [FROLINAT], Abba Siddick is deemed to be one of the historical leaders of the Chad rebellion. He is supported both by Algeria and by France which, it would appear, tried to propose him as candidate for the premiership in the summer. During the interview which he gave us in Paris in mid-January, we rather gained the impression of meeting a political ghost. Let the reader judge from his answers.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: When Hisseine Habre was appointed prime minister, you said that this was a demagogic publicity operation. How do you now assess his move in the light of his first 5 months in office?

Abba Siddick: To be more precise, I said that the Malloum-Hisseine Habre tandem was a political device with no future. I have not changed my mind, since as far as the results of that government's action since September 1978 are concerned, I can only see a nebula. This was unavoidable since Gen Felix Malloum and Hisseine Habre have a different concept of power.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: Can you explain what you mean by this?

Abba Siddick: I believe that the point is sufficiently clear.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: Does this different approach explain the tension existing between the two men?

Abba Siddick: I am not aware of any tension between them. Even if it does exist, it is a family quarrel and I am not interested in it in the least.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: It seems that the policy of national union has reached a deadlock. In your opinion, who holds the key to a solution to the situation in Chad?

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Abba Siddick: I do not know and, in any case, this problem does not keep me awake nights. I cannot tell fortunes from tea leaves. Nor am I a crystal gazer.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: Do you keep in contact with the authorities of your country?

Abba Siddick: No, and I do not want to.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: Have the Chad authorities tried to contact you?

Abba Siddick: No, and I cannot see why they should have done.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: What kind of relations have you with the Algerian leaders? And are you not afraid that they could change as a result of President Boumediene's death?

Abba Siddick: I live in Algeria. I can tell you no more.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: Are you in contact with Libya and Goukouni?

Abba Siddick: With neither.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: And with France?

Abba Siddick: Nor with France. And even if I was I would not tell you.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: Would you be prepared to return to Chad and, if so, under what conditions?

Abba Siddick: I have no plans on this.

JEUNE AFRIQUE: What future is Chad facing at present?

Abba Siddick: Let me repeat that I am not a crystal gazer. I do not write political fiction. I am not interested in this problem.

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GABON

BRIEFS

MILITARY, POLICE CHANGES--Pursuant to a decree by President Bongo, who is minister of national defense and supreme chief of the armies, changes have taken place in the Gabonese police forces as of 3 January. Gen Jean-Boniface Aselle, minister of national education and of youth, sports and leisure, who is still the commander in chief of that corps which is now integrated into the Gabonese Armed Forces, is assisted by the chief of the general staff, Lt Col Georges Amvame Ndong, who was deputy commander in chief, a position which has disappeared. Two staff chiefs back-up Col Amvame Ndong. One of them is in charge of technical services and the other is in charge of administrative and financial services. Lt Col Gaston Felicien Olouna, who was earlier chief of staff of the National Police Forces, has been made available to the Presidency of the Republic. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 12 Jan 79 p 90] 12,116

PDG NATIONAL CONGRESS SET--President Omar Bongo has decided to convene the single, Gabonese Democratic Party in a national congress in Libreville in January, in order to make it the "catalyst for national unity and all political activities." In an AFP interview on 30 December, the chief of state said that henceforth all appointments to important posts will be made in accordance with "the militancy" of those seeking them. Stressing the political importance of the Central Committee which will be named in January by the congress, the chief of state said that he will take over the presidency of the Central Committee in order to be closer to the militants and the party. According to President Bongo, henceforth the members of the Political Bureau should obligatorily be chosen from among the members of the Central Committee. The Political Bureau met on 30 December with President Bongo to set conclusively the means of organizing the national congress and to carry out the changes in the party regulations. The last congress was held in Libreville at the beginning of 1973. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 35] 11937

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GHANA

BRIEFS

APPEAL FOR VOLTA REGION DEVELOPMENT--At the beginning of December, Commander in Chief of the Ghanaian National Navy Vice Adm J.K. Amedume issued an appeal to local investors to come and create industrial enterprises in the Volta region which, he said, will soon be supplied with electrical energy from the Akosombo station. Vice Admiral Amedume mentioned the interest the government has shown in the development of that region which has been somewhat neglected for a long time, and said that it contains some excellent clay deposits which would lend themselves perfectly to the creation of ceramic, paint and brick factories. We pointed out in our 20 October issue that, thanks to new West German aid, the region in question was finally to be supplied by the station and we stressed then how surprising, nay, paradoxical it was that said region should go for such a long time without the expected electricity, that the artificial lake had brought it repeated disagreements and that the station itself had begun serving neighboring countries first, before it. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 31] 11937

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GUINEA

FRENCH-GUINEAN ENTENTE MAY GIVE RISE TO SECOND THOUGHTS

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French No 940, 10 Jan 79 pp 30, 31, 32

[Article by Abdelaziz Dahmani: "What will be Left?"]

[Excerpts] The delirium in Conakry, Kankan, Faranah, or Labe, intoxicated with its shouts of "Long Live France," may have some bitter tomorrows.

What will remain within a few months of this astonishing voyage by Valery Giscard d'Estaing to Conakry from 20 to 22 December 1978; the festivities were grandiose, quite moving at certain moments, and, in spite of an organization that was a little bit too perfect, it did not lose any of its sincerity.

But all of these "historical" voyages also had less brilliant sequels, like the hangover after the Mardi Gras. Will the voyage to Guinea escape that rule? It is difficult to think so. The enthusiasm of the Guineans can be explained above all by their profound desire to get out of the ghetto, one of the most dramatic ones an African country has ever experienced. And they want to get out of it as fast as possible, they want to breathe and live freely, not just with slogans and adoration for the venerated chief, the grand strategist of the revolution, president Sekou Toure.

This delirium in Conakry, Kankan, Faranah, or Labe--intoxicated as it was with its shouts of "Long Live France" and "Long Live Valery"--can have some bitter tomorrows since the hope placed in France is powerful and urgent. What has been done in order to make up for lost time adds up to such a gigantic effort that France seems rather startled by the bill and asked for time to think it over. French industry minister Giraud, who accompanied his president, did not hide the fact: "The operations envisaged here, especially in the energy field, involve such a tremendous volume that one would have to provide for international cooperation."

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France is now facing a difficult choice. To meet expectations, it will have to commit itself totally to the improvement and development of Guinea. Now, plunging into this tremendous undertaking, aimed at pulling Guinea out of the ranks of the poorest countries, all by itself, quite apart from the question of the money involved, entails the risk of astonishing its traditional friends for whom it is not doing anything real big.

Too Many Sequels

People in Senegal, in Ivory Coast, and elsewhere are already beginning to ask some questions. Are relations with France going to remain within the purview of the ministry of cooperation or are they going to be switched to foreign affairs? On request of Guinea, Mr Jean-Francois Ponceat, the boss at Quai d'Orsay [French Foreign Office], and not Mr Galley, went along on the trip. For the Guineans, the ministry of cooperation is still too much aware of the sequels of colonialism. Other Africans might also wish to talk to Quai d'Orsay which would also permit them no longer to depend on one exclusive partner. The choice for them could be between strengthening a certain degree of independence or priority to be given to management and supply.

Valery Giscard d'Estaing is rather thinking of interdependence. At Conakry he revised and completed his proposal for a French-African solidarity pact, a solidarity which would above all involve defense. Sekou Toure listened to the French proposals with an attentive ear. He knows that Giscard would like to have "revolutionary Guinea" with him so as to clear up his policy of defending the moderate French-speaking countries. Sekou Toure, who has lost none of his humor, replied: "We will assist in the restoration of France's international image." He said this with the qualifying remark, "as the world's first people's democracy."

The success of Giscard's visit would have been total without the presence of his sacred journalist. In the course of a press conference, with newsmen who were forbidden to ask questions, he preached to them, accusing them, along with some "spoiled intellectuals," of being solely responsible for the dramas and bad reputation of Guinea. Sekou Toure himself went in for a little bit of chest-beating. For him, everything changed in August 1977 when thousands of women went out into the streets in order to shout: Enough! He knows that his country wants a change at all costs, he knows that it would be difficult for him to go back to the way things were. And he has asked that he no longer be judged in the light of the past but in the light of what will be in the future.

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GUINEA

SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN GUINEAN ECONOMY SEEN

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French No 940, 10 Jan 79 p 31

[Article by S. B.: "Economy--Slightly Better?"]

[Text] Guinea's economic situation is not as catastrophic today as it was several years ago. This is the opinion expressed by experts from the World Bank in a report drawn up this autumn, following a loan application from the Guinean government. Once upon a time considered one of West Africa's richest countries, Guinea they found, went through a period of regression from 1958 until 1972: constant decline in per capita income, proliferation of a public sector which showed a tragic deficit and absorbed most of the government revenues, massive recourse to foreign loans, turning the [foreign] debt into a insoluble problem, runaway inflation promoting a flourishing black market in the cities, accentuation of the imbalance between the cities and the rural areas--in short, a situation bordering on catastrophe.

But the Bank found an improvement starting in 1972, due to two main factors: an awareness on the part of responsible officials which caused them to be more realistic and the opening, in 1974 of the two most important bauxite mines which helped increase export earnings from \$61 million in 1973 to \$312 million in 1977. Many measures were also taken to break with the decisions of the past and the IBRD experts only welcomed those measures which included the reorganization of the public sector to achieve more efficiency, greater tolerance for private commerce, priority for productive investments, especially in the rural sector, and restoration of the monetary situation. While Guinea is still suffering from the severe handicaps due to past "errors," the prospects are good and the new guidelines adopted by the government seem to satisfy the Western countries and the financing organizations in those countries. It remains to be seen whether the Guineans "at the grass roots" are also satisfied.

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GUINEA

BRIEFS

SUSPECTED PSYCHIATRIC CENTER CLOSED--The daily newspaper LA TRIBUNE, of Lausanne, reports that the psychiatric ward of the Ballay Hospital in Conakry was closed after the visit of President Valery Giscard D'Estaing. The newspaper does not quote any source, but it specifies that the ward "directed by Soviet physicians, was reserved for the reeducation of Guinean dissidents." According to the daily, the "prisoners" were not put at liberty, but President Sekou Toure "has given orders for an improvement in their treatment," as he "fears a new campaign by Amnesty International at this moment when he is beginning to improve his relations with the outside world." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 12 Jan 79 p 85] 12,116

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KENYA

MOI SAID TO NEED HIS POPULARITY TO CONTROL TENSIONS

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 10 Jan 79 p 32

[Text] When, on 10 October 1978, Daniel Arap Moi officially took over his duties as president of the Kenyan republic, he appeared only as the faithful baron of Jomo Kenyatta in whose shadow he had held the office of vice president for 12 years. Former teacher, seldom smiling and reserved, this man, 54 years of age, seemed somewhat dull in comparison with his two principal friends: the brilliant Minister of Finance Mwai Kibaki and the eloquent Attorney General Njonjo.

This was underestimating Arap Moi's political skill and his profound knowledge of the Kenyan people. Within the space of 4 months, the new president was able to acquire the stature of a true statesman. To be sure, his primary concern was to maintain the status quo and not disturb the balance established in the Kenyatta era on behalf of the most sizable ethnic group: the Kikuyus. He did not make any substantial changes within the government and he chose Kibaki, a Kikuyu, as vice president. The fact that he himself belongs to a small ethnic minority made it possible to avoid any display of exasperation by the Luos, the Kikuyus' main rival group.

Political Liberalism

However, it is especially the release of about 15 political prisoners on 12 December, in celebration of the 15th anniversary of independence, which largely helped ease the atmosphere. Some of the individuals released were: members of the Luo opposition and certain Somalis--whose secessionist tendencies in the country's North are still feared--and the famous novelist, Ngugi Wa Thiong'o.

Determined to play a card of confidence and political liberalism, the Kenyan head of state did not hesitate to make a trip abroad, only 1 month after taking over the presidency, to give a strong impetus to his diplomacy. First Kenyan president to go to Paris, he subsequently installed new ambassadors in the Common Market countries and in Great Britain. For the first time, a high "commissioner" was appointed to Canada and an embassy was established in Japan. Lastly, the Kenyan Embassy in Peking, closed since the Cultural Revolution, was reopened and, on 22 December, Arap Moi was invited to make an official visit to China.

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The third item of great importance in Arap Moi's policy is the social aspect and the struggle against corruption. The first steps taken were in regard to unemployment, which exceeds 10 percent in some of Nairobi's districts. After having obtained the unions' promise to lower their wage demands, the president authorized an increase of 10 percent in the hiring rate in both the public and private sectors beginning 1 January 1979.

The little people of Kenya are also aware of the campaign launched against certain leaders who diverted public funds, are corrupt or engage in speculation. Investigations are underway, particularly in essentially public organizations, such as the National Wheat Board or the national slaughterhouse. An attempt is being made to destroy the network which is smuggling coffee from Uganda into Kenya. Two high police officials were forced to resign and parliament is stunned by that affair.

Can we truly say that Arap Moi has taken a definite stand? After 3 years of prosperity for Kenya, he is facing a difficult economic situation. Showing great profit in 1977 (\$280 million), the balance of payments may show a deficit of \$300 million in 1978. This is due particularly to a heavy trade imbalance caused by an increase in the value of imports. Inflation is not checked and there was a slowdown in the growth rate of the GDP: according to the IMF, it will not exceed 4 percent in 1978 compared with 7.3 percent in 1977. What has happened? The excellent revenue obtained in 1977, thanks to abundant coffee and tea harvests and a rise in world market prices, has been absorbed by the army, national organizations created following the emergence of the East African Community and the financing of imports. This situation, which is unhealthy to say the least, is not adequate to offset the effects of the breakdown in coffee and tea prices which occurred in 1978. Prices dropped 50 percent in 1 year. And the overabundant rains of the last weeks of December 1978 endanger the 1979 harvest.

Harsh Measures

Stabilization measures have been taken to straighten out Kenya's finances. Moreover, in November 1978 the IMF granted Kenya credit assistance amounting to \$22 million. Other measures being contemplated are: strict limitation of imports, control over the outflow of foreign currency and perhaps even a devaluation of the Kenyan pound.

Arap Moi will undoubtedly have great need of his newly acquired popularity to control social tensions aggravated by the crisis and impose unpopular measures on the middle class, particularly as rivals might emerge. First of all, there might be Oginga Odinga, head of the Luo ethnic group, who, for 7 years, has been making an effort to return to the political life from which he was excluded in 1966. Then we might have Dr Njoroge Mungai, Kikuyu and leader of the most conservative middle-class group, who was not able to worm his way into the presidency upon the death of his uncle, J. Kenyatta. Both have expressed

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their faith in the president, but they are expecting a moment of weakness between now and the time of the legislative elections, which are to be held in October at the latest.

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MALI

BRIEFS

INCREASED 1979 BUDGET ADOPTED--Approved on 28 December by the government on its proposal by Minister of Finance and Commerce Col Amadou Diarra, Mali's 1979 budget plan is balanced on revenues and expenditures at the sum of 70.1 billion Malian francs, as compared to 60.8 billion in 1978. Colonel Diarra stated that the new budget takes into account the 1977 rectification program which foresaw a growth threshold and ceiling for revenues and expenditures of 20 and 8 percent, respectively. In the budget, the part made up by taxes is 40 percent; tariffs, 38 percent; contributions from the regions, 10 percent, and miscellaneous revenues, 12 percent. Nevertheless, the budgetary impasse, which was 5.26 billion in 1978, will be markedly reduced. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 27] 11937

FRENCH-MALIAN MINING SYNDICATE--An agreement establishing a mining research syndicate was signed on 27 December in Bamako between the government of Mali, represented by Minister of Industrial Development and Tourism Lamine Keita, and the Geological and Mining Research Bureau [BRGM], a French public establishment, represented by its director, Jean Lespine. The purpose of this syndicate is to promote research for and then the exploitation of deposits of gold, copper, tin, diamonds and other mineral substances in Kenieba (in the southwestern part of Mali) and also to prospect for gold in the Kangaba and Bagoé regions (Bougouni-Sikasso). To carry out this first-stage work, the syndicate funds were estimated at 300 million Malian francs, 70 percent of which is the BRGM's responsibility and 30 percent Mali's. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 27] 11937

FRG WATERWORKS, CEMENT FINANCING--The Federal Republic of Germany is to provide a contribution of 150,000 DM (about 34.5 million Malian francs) to Mali for the financing of a project to supply water to the town of Koulikoro, under the terms of an agreement signed in Bamako on 30 December. On that occasion, the signatories to the agreement also effected an exchange of letters stipulating that the FRG will also furnish Mali with a contribution of 3 million DM, or about 690 million Malian francs, for the financing of a project for a second cement plant in Kayes. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 27] 11937

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MAURITIUS

BRIEFS

INDIAN AID PROMISED--Port Louis, 29 Jan, REUTER--India is to increase its assistance to independent black countries in southern Africa and also increase aid to liberation movements in the region, Indian External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee said. Speaking to reporters during a short visit to Mauritius while on his way to Maputo, Mozambique, to attend a ministerial council meeting of the nonaligned movement, Mr Vajpayee said "We have decided to increase our assistance to liberation movements and states facing attacks from the white racist regime." Referring to developments in Namibia (South-west Africa) he said 1978 had passed without political power being transferred to the black majority. "We feel that if the attitude of the racist regime of South Africa continues as it is now there would be no alternative but to intensify the armed struggle." [Text] [London REUTER in English 0307 GMT 29 Jan 79 PA]

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MOZAMBIQUE

FISHING INDUSTRY, PESCOM SITUATION REVIEWED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 45

[Article: "Fishing and Pescom's Role"]

[Excerpt] Mozambique has important fishing resources which, currently, are far from being fully exploited. The three sectors--domestic, state (Emopesca) and private--account for no more than 10 percent of the country's consumption. Their output--with the exception of the private sector which has some of its own commercial channels--is channeled through the Empresa Nacional de Comercializacao de Produtos Pesqueiros (Pescom).

The activities of this enterprise which, as was recently emphasized by Maputo's daily NOTICIAS, employs 800 people, is headed by the Ministry of Industry and Energy, through a State Secretariat for Fishing.

The Council of Ministers recently established a new state enterprise, Pescom Internacional, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, which will be in charge of all import-export activities so far carried out by Pescom which will dedicate itself exclusively to domestic trade.

This move was made necessary by the growing importance to Mozambique of exporting certain fishing products such as shrimp (90 percent of exports in this sector) and lobster as well as, to a lesser extent, holothurians. Between January and November Pescom exported 1,200 tons of fishing products worth 179,591 contos.

Pescom imports from abroad essentially frozen fish as well as, even though in lesser quantities, dried and canned fish, accounting for 90 percent of the fish consumed in Mozambique. In 1978 such imports made it possible to supply the country 1,500 tons per month, an amount quite higher than the previous year. 1979 imports will be raised to 2,500 tons per month. Some of them come from the USSR. . . . But fished in Mozambican waters by licensed Soviet trawlers.

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Despite its rich food value, per capita fish consumption remains very low in Mozambique. This country, with its 2,500 kilometers of shoreline, greatly benefit by increasing its catch and try to modify the nutritional habits of its population and to improve its distribution networks. Currently per capita annual consumption is no more than 1.5-2 kilograms; it could reach 3 kilograms within one year, compared with 22 kilograms in Cuba, and 50 to 60 kilograms in Portugal, Spain, Norway, or Japan.

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MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

ONGOING PROSPECTING FOR MINERALS--Geological prospecting for the purpose of determining reserves of marble, copper, granite and other minerals is being carried out in the Mozambican provinces of Manica, Zambezia and Cabo Delgado. It will be coordinated by the State Mining Enterprise, now being formed, whose entry into activity will permit exploitation to be intensified. The geological core-drilling in progress is being done at Magatcata, Alto Logonha and Montepuez. They are investigating deposits of black granite, copper, asbestos, magnetite and marble, and will endeavor to determine the quantity and quality of existing reserves in order to permit planning the investments to be made and the tonnages to be exported. They are also proceeding with the work of recovering machines and equipment and of reorganizing the existing mining enterprises for the purpose of increasing productive capacity. The State Mining Enterprise will reserve 40 percent of the quarried marble for the domestic market, the remaining 60 percent being available for export. The company has its main office in Maputo and branch offices in the three offices where the prospecting is going on. The company will be divided into two autonomous sectors at a later date. One will take care of mining and production in the strict sense of the terms and the other will handle the marketing. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 12 Jan 79 p 99] 12,116

QUARRIES REORGANIZED--The quarries in Maputo Province are being reorganized in order to reach their planned output: 20,000 cubic meters of rock per month. The same effort is being undertaken in the rest of Mozambique as a result of the national survey with a view to purchasing the necessary equipment for the operations of this sector whose current output ranges from 7,000 to 8,000 cubic meters monthly, an amount insufficient to meet the country's requirements. The Cometal-Mometal Company is scheduled to begin the manufacturing, starting with the first quarter of 1979, of some 100 special freight cars for gravel haulage. This will make increased output possible. Furthermore, two new quarriers will be exploited, one in Gaza Province (100 kilometers from Chokwe, in Limpopo District), and the second in Inhambane Province. The equipment for such exploitation should be received in the course of the first half of 1979. The National Industry and Civilian Construction Office (DINIC), in charge of quarries, will organize vocational training courses. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 45] 5157

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LARGE FOOD IMPORTS—In the first half of November 1978 Mozambique received substantial amounts of imported foodstuffs: 550 tons of meat from Argentina were offered in Maputo; 10,000 tons of rice were unloaded in Maputo (to be distributed among Maputo, Gaza, and Inhambane provinces), along with 12,000 tons of corn. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 45] 5157

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SENEGAL

SENEGALESE DEMOCRATIC PARTY ACTIVITY NOTED

Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French 8-21 Jan 79 p 48

[Text] Represented at the National Assembly by 18 deputies compared with 82 from President Senghor's Senegalese Socialist Party, Abdoulaye Wade's Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS) is being systematically boycotted by the "majority." All its initiatives, suggestions and reform projects are being rejected by a collusion of neocolonial interests within parliament.

That is why Mr Fara Ndiaye, chairman of the PDS parliamentary group stated recently that, since his party can no longer take any initiatives at the National Assembly, those initiatives having been "confiscated by the government, the presence of the PDS in parliament has no meaning."

In addition, an extraordinary session of the PDS will be held in April to decide if the PDS will boycott the Senegalese National Assembly.

Moreover, we might point out that Mr Ndiaye, whose party is contesting the provisions of the Senegalese constitution which specify that the president of the republic will be replaced by the prime minister in case of death, resignation or impeachment, has announced that the PDS will place before parliament a resolution demanding that a referendum be held on this article of the constitution as well as on secrecy at the polls. We know that this secrecy was not observed at the last elections, which were largely gerrymandered.

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TANZANIA

BRIEFS

AIRCRAFT DELIVERY--A Fokker F28 Mark 3,000 has just been delivered to the Tanzanian authorities. This is an aircraft that will be used for official travel. It has a special interior arrangement, and it is decorated in an African style. It has a 48-passenger capacity. Let us recall that Air Tanzania is already equipped with three Fokker "F27 Friendship" planes which make domestic and international flights over short distances. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEEANS in French 12 Jan 79 p 93] 12,116

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TOGO

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM COMPANY COUNCIL CHANGES--A presidential decree promulgated on 28 December 1978 brought about the dissolution of the administrative council of the Togolese Petroleum Company (STH). All the technical assistance contracts binding the company to personnel outside the country have been suspended. A new general director has been named, the decree states, and the functions of all the Togolese employed by the STH are at an end. The new director is authorized to recruit a new technical staff "indispensable to the real needs" of the company. It is felt in Lome that these decisions seem to be linked to the difficulties of a technical and financial nature encountered a few months ago by the STH which is responsible for running the oil refinery opened near Lome a year ago. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 5 Jan 79 p 30] 11937

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

SECTS REGULATED--The Zaire Press Agency announced on 4 January that nearly 400 religious sects, most of them functioning illegally, had been ordered to cease their activities in Zaire without delay. With the exception of the Roman Catholic Church, the Church of Christ in Zaire (Protestant), Kinbanguism and Islam, officially recognized, a great number of religious confessions are not in accord with the dispositions of the law which require the churches to organize themselves as non-profit associations with civil personalities. Only President Mobutu has the power, after an examination, to grant freedom of expression to those churches among which Jehovah's Witnesses and other sects of a tribal or regional nature are included. In order to avoid an erroneous interpretation of this measure, the Kinshasa authorities have invited the leaders of the churches concerned to present their petitions for civil personality in the shortest possible time. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEEANS in French 12 Jan 79 p 91] 12,116

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